

Applicant: Golds et al.
Application Serial No.: 10/716,639
Filing Date: Herewith
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (previously presented): A method of forming a stent-graft prosthesis comprising the step of:

forming a first PTFE tubular structure;

positioning a stent over said first PTFE tubular structure, said stent having a tubular configuration formed of a plurality of turns of a helically wound wire, each of said turns including successive upper and lower wave-like peaks;

forming a second PTFE tubular structure over said stent; and

exposing selective ones of said upper and lower wave-like peaks through said second PTFE tubular structure, wherein exposing includes placing a plurality of slits through said second PTFE tubular structure at a location aligned with said selective upper and lower peaks of said stent; and extending said upper and lower peaks of said stent through said slits.

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Claim 27 (previously presented): A method of claim 26 further including the step of adheringly securing said first PTFE tubular stent to said second PTFE tubular structure through spaces between said wound wire.

Claim 28 (cancelled): A method of claim 27 wherein said exposing step includes:

placing a plurality of slits through said second PTFE tubular structure at a location aligned with said selective upper and lower peaks of said stent; and
extending said upper and lower peaks of said stent through said slits.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A method of claim ~~28~~ 27 wherein said extending step includes:

lifting said selective upper and lower peaks;
tucking a portion of said second PTFE tubular structure adjacent said slit, under said upper and lower peaks.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A method of claim ~~28~~ 27 wherein said placing step includes:

cutting said slits using a cutting tool.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A method of claim ~~28~~ 27 wherein said placing step includes:

laser burning said slits through said second PTFE tubular structure.

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Claim 32 (previously presented): A method of claim 27 wherein said exposing step includes:

forming said second PTFE tubular structure with a plurality of apertures, said apertures being at a location adjacent said selective upper and lower peaks.

Claim 33 (new): A method of claim 26 wherein said second PTFE tubular structure is sintered prior to said exposing step.

Claim 34 (previously presented): A method of claim 26 wherein said second PTFE tubular structure is sintered subsequent to said exposing step.